

REMARKS

Claims 10 – 29 are pending. By this amendment, claims 10 and 20 are amended. No new matter is introduced. Reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

On page 2 the Office Action rejects claims 10 – 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent 5,630,125 to *Zellweger* (hereafter *Zellweger*) in view of U.S. Patent 5,666,493 to *Wojcik et al.* (hereafter *Wojcik*). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that *Zellweger* “teaches a method for tracing purchases of electronic books (electronic catalog)” including “storing identifications of a plurality of electronic books for display on a viewer ... associating each of the electronic books with a source” but admits that *Zellweger* does not teach recording an indication of purchases of the electronic book and associating an amount of each purchase with the source for the corresponding electronic book. The Office Action then asserts that *Wojcik* “teach an electronic catalog information and storage and maintains records on purchasing transactions ...”

Zellweger is directed to an information management system that includes an electronic catalog. *Zellweger*’s “electronic catalog” includes many features. See column 11, lines 10 – 52. However, nowhere does *Zellweger* disclose or suggest anything to do with tracking purchases of electronic books. More specifically, *Zellweger* teaches an electronic catalog, not the sale of the electronic catalog. Applicant questions whether the Examiner has confused the disclosure of an electronic catalog with the sale of electronic books. Furthermore, *Zellweger* definitely does not disclose or suggest storing identifications of a plurality of electronic books, associating each of the electronic books with a source of the electronic book, and providing the electronic books for purchase. The Office Action asserts that *Zellweger*’s Figure 8 discloses storing identifications of electronic books. Figure 8 is merely a screen shot presented to a user of *Zellweger*’s electronic catalog. Figure 8, and its accompanying description, do not even remotely disclose or suggest the storage of any electronic book identification information. In addition, *Zellweger* does not disclose or suggest associating each of the electronic books with a source of the electronic book; indeed, the Office Action does not even provide a citation to *Zellweger* for this proposition, because, of course, *Zellweger* does not disclose or suggest this feature.

Wojcik is directed to a system for providing efficient management of customer orders in a food processing and distribution environment. *Wojcik* has nothing to do with tracking purchases of electronic books, and *Wojcik* does nothing to cure the defects in *Zellweger*.

In contrast to *Zellweger* and *Wojcik*, independent claims 10 and 20 each recite storing identifications of electronic books and associating each of the electronic books with a source of the electronic book. Independent claims 15 and 25 each recite storing identifications of electronic books. As noted above, *Zellweger* and *Wojcik*, individually and in combination, do not disclose or suggest these features. Accordingly claims 10, 15, 20, and 25 are patentable. Claims 11 – 14 depend from patentable claim 10; claims 16 – 19 depend from patentable claim 15; claims 21 – 24 depend from patentable claim 20; and claims 26 – 29 depend from patentable claim 25. For these reason and the additional features they recite, these dependent claims are also patentable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 10 – 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance. Prompt examination and allowance are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desired in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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